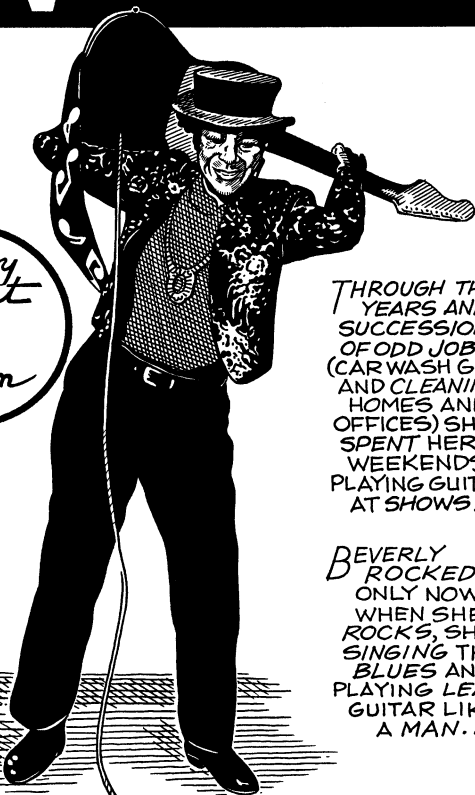


BEVERLY "Guitar" WATKINS

Story
and Art
BY
Gary Dumm



THROUGH THE YEARS AND A SUCCESSION OF ODD JOBS (CAR WASH GIGS AND CLEANING HOMES AND OFFICES) SHE SPENT HER WEEKENDS PLAYING GUITAR AT SHOWS.

BEVERLY ROCKED - ONLY NOW WHEN SHE ROCKS, SHE'S SINGING THE BLUES AND PLAYING LEAD GUITAR LIKE A MAN...

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BEVERLY "GUITAR" WATKINS WAS BORN ON APRIL 6, 1939, IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA TO A GOSPEL BEAT. AND DUE TO THE MUSICAL INFLUENCE OF HER GRAND-FATHER'S FRONT PORCH BANJO AND THE HAYES SISTERS (HER SINGING AUNTIES) BY 1958 SHE WAS PLAYING RHYTHM GUITAR AND BASS WITH BILLY WEST STONE AND THE DOWNBEATS BLUES/JAZZ GROUP.



GLADYS KNIGHT WENT TO OUR SCHOOL AND SHE WAS THE MAJORETTE. ANYWAY, I ROCKED ON, KEPT GOING.

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AFTER BEVERLY MET PIANO RED SHE BECAME PART OF A BLUES OUTFIT LATER TO GAIN FAME AS "DR. FEELGOOD AND THE INTERNS." IN THE EARLY SIXTIES THE BEATLES DUG SONGS OF THEIRS LIKE "RIGHT STRING BUT THE WRONG YO-YO" AND "DR. FEELGOOD" ... AND THE INTERNS ROCKED ON, ROCKED ON, KEPT GOING...

A GAL PLAYING LEAD LIKE A MAN... STILL ANOMALY ENOUGH TO DRAW THE ATTENTION AND DISBELIEF OF SOME AUDIENCE MEMBERS, WHO, HEARING HER SHOW QUICKLY BECAME AVID FANS.

BEVERLY SAYS:

I KEPT ON, UNDER-
STAND.

